

JUNE 5

GOD PROVIDED FOR HANNAH (1 Samuel 1-3)

RECAP

Christ Connection

Samuel told people what God is like and what He would do. Jesus, the Son of God, told people about God's plan and showed the world what God is like.

Big Picture Question

What is the punishment for sin? The punishment for sin is separation from God.

Key Passage:

"God gives life forever."

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE GOSPEL PROJECT @HOME

FAMILY WORSHIP

Consider doing this during a designated time each week or before/after a meal together.

Read all or parts of 1 Samuel 1-3 from the Bible, talk about the scripture, pray and do the fun activity or family serve project this week.

Have you ever heard a newborn baby crying? It can be really loud and sometimes hurts your ears, but the cries are actually very useful. When you become a parent, you learn how to respond to the baby's cries and soothe them. You discover which cry means the baby is hungry, which cry means they're hurting, and which cry means they need a diaper change— although your nose will probably tell you before your ears! A good parent will listen for their cry and respond to it.

Hannah was heartbroken about not having a child. She would go with her husband to the tabernacle, and she would pray, "Lord, if You give me a son, I will dedicate him to You. He will serve You all of his life." Like a newborn who cries for her parents, Hannah cried out to God for help in her time of need. God heard her and gave her a son, Samuel. Samuel would grow to serve God just as Hannah had promised.

Psalm 34:17 says, "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles." Whatever we need, we can ask God for help. He is a loving Father who hears us and responds to us. He may not answer the way we expect or want, but we can always trust in His plans for us.

Hannah trusted God and sent Samuel away from home to serve God with his whole life. God sent Jesus from heaven to earth to be our Savior. Just as Samuel used God's words to tell people about God, Jesus—the Word who became flesh—perfectly shows us what God is like.

***Pray:** We praise You, God, for being a loving, patient, and attentive Father. Thank You for hearing us when we cry out to You. Help us to trust that You will hear us and provide for our needs. Thank You for Jesus—the Savior who provides for our greatest need!*

Pray: *God, we praise You because Your plans are always great! You provided for Ruth and Naomi when they were in great need, and You have provided for us in our greatest need. Thank You for sending Jesus to take our punishment on the cross.*

FAMILY PRAYER

Mornings

Praise God for His attributes we see in the story of Hannah and Samuel: His love, patience, and provision. How did God show love to Hannah? How did He provide for Hannah? How have you seen these same attributes of God in your life?

Evenings

Ask God to give you faith like Hannah's when you pray to Him. Ask Him to help you trust in His ability to hear your prayer and respond to them. Why do you think Hannah trusted God when she prayed? Why can you trust God when you pray?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

For Fun

Have a diaper changing contest with the family. Use baby dolls or watermelons as the "baby" and see who can remove and replace a diaper the fastest. Talk about Hannah's trust in God to answer her prayer and her devotion to give her son back to God for His use. Ask kids to think about why Hannah trusted God so much and how we can grow in our trust of Him.

To Serve

Deliver a meal, gift, or offer babysitting for a young mom in your church. Talk with kids about Hannah's prayer and how God provided a son for her. Explain to kids how God used Samuel, Hannah's son, to anoint David as God's chosen king over Israel and ancestor of Jesus—the King of kings.